



Phoenix FireWorks

Volume 3 ♦ Number 1 ♦ January / February 2003

40 Years of PFD Newsletters... Coming To An End



(WATCH THIS SPACE!)

Volume 1

February 1978

Number

WHAT THIS LITTLE HOUSE ORGAN IS DOING HERE . . .

This is the first issue of the Phoenix Fire Department Newsletter. (That is probably obvious to you, since you've never seen it before, but we didn't want you to think it was a flyer offering cash for your used car.) The Newsletter will be printed once a month for distribution to all Department personnel. Articles are being contributed to each issue by people from the following areas:

- Operations • Administration
- Training • Support Services
- Communications • Firefighters Association
- Fire Belles • E.M.S.
- Prevention • Anyone else who feels the urge to make journalism history

In short, we hope the newsletter will help keep you up-to-date on what is going on in each section and we solicit contributions from any member of the department who has a note of interest. We'll also include a calendar of events (which you may tape to the front of your icebox) and a classified ad section (used for getting rid of old lawnmowers and the like, but no commercial firm ads please).

Any contributions or ads you would like to include should be sent to:

Phoenix Fire Department-Newsletter
620 West Washington, Room 343
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

or Administration Office by City mail

Deadline for contributions to next month's issue will be included every month. April issue deadline is March 22. The newsletter will be mailed to your home on about the 7th of each month.

You may also have noted that up there at the top, where most newsletters have their name, the newsletter says "Watch This Space." This is because we have not selected a name, thinking that a reader might suggest an appropriate title (yes folks, another name that newsletter contest!). If you have a name in mind, call Rachael Torres at the Fire Chief's office and leave your suggestion. The winning name will receive a prize (we haven't figured out what yet) and all the connected fame and glory. Deadline for name entries is Wednesday, March 29.



LADDER CREW DAZZLES ELEMENTARY STUDENTS WHO CAME TO THE FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY, 2430 S. 22nd AVE. FOR FIELD TRIP DAY THIS FALL. THE SPRING FIELD TRIP DAY IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 27th. NEARLY A THOUSAND STUDENTS WILL SEE DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE ENGINE, LADDER AND RESCUE COMPANIES AS THEY GO THROUGH HOT DRILLS ON THE ACADEMY GROUNDS.

PARAMEDIC STRESS by Decker Williams

Paramedic stress has become such an over emphasized topic I felt compelled to report on it. For several months, statistics were compiled on divorce rates among paramedics. Interestingly, it was found that over 50% of paramedic marriages end in divorce. Only thing though is that divorces run about the same for the rest of Maricopa County's population. Well no hoopla there, but maybe occupational stresses do effect a person's personality both on and off the job.

With this in mind, the first paramedic stress workshop was held recently for 28 paramedic couples. In a great deal of stress, but denying such, this paramedic attended with his reluctant spouse in tow. I soon found out this eight hour stress workshop was really an awareness learning session on paramedic occupational hazards affecting his personality that previously he would have sworn did not exist.

The session began with the usual coffee, donuts, and introductions to put you at ease followed by a film on stress. Then an exercise was participated in where groups of three women and three men, all strangers, were formed and told to discuss and write down potential paramedic/spouse communication problems. Each group wrote down basically the same things, some of those being:

Spouses feel their paramedic husbands do not consider family injuries either physical or emotional to be as important as they do. It was felt a typical paramedic statement to his crying sons or daughters injury would be "Quit crying, why I see people with their whole arms torn off so you don't have it so bad." Or to the spouse it might be "I have no desire to listen to your simple problems, especially when I see rape victims, or new widows who have it a hell of a lot worse than you."

Twenty-eight couples can't be wrong, paramedic stress is a definite occupational hazard. We explored the thought that paramedics become desensitized by the nature of their occupation, so much so that they are becoming unable to give the most important things needed in their relationship with their families. I.e., the physical and emotional support needed to maintain a secure family relationship. Solutions to our problems weren't given, only awareness.

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The news of the Phoenix Fire Department began coming to its members and their families in the form of a newsletter back in September of 1963 – with "The Red Line." It was an important communication tool that continued for the next 40 years.

The first issue of the newly named "Fireworks" began exactly 25 years ago – in February, 1978. On the front page, there was an article about "Paramedic Stress," by Decker Williams. Inside were articles about the new Support Services Facility being constructed at 2450 S. 22nd Ave.; the renovation of AHQ; Fire Prevention's push to bring the message, "The best fire suppression is fire prevention" to the public; and 1977's stats page, citing Engine 2 as the PFD's busiest company with 2842 calls.

Fast-forward to February, 2003... and Fireworks' final issue. Yes, this issue will be the PFD's last. The City's budget cuts have "stopped the presses" on many departmental newsletters.

Many people have contributed their words and pictures to the newsletter over its 40-year life-span. Special thanks go to Donna White, the Executive Editor of the newsletter for the last 20 years. Her hard work made it an informative and visually appealing communication source for the members, their families, and our 3000+ friends outside of the department who read every issue.

The staff of Fireworks has enjoyed bringing you the news of the PFD, and we invite you to visit our website at www.phoenix.gov/fire to keep current on news around the department. We will do our best to keep you informed of interesting changes, events or people that bring the PFD and the community together everyday. ♦

City of Phoenix Budget Cuts and the Impact on the PFD

The City of Phoenix has budget problems – the worst in its history. It is spending more than it is earning, and as anyone who has a checkbook knows, that means it's time to take some drastic action. But unlike your checkbook, the City needs to take a big cut – approximately \$72 million.

State law requires that the City's budget be balanced, so it has little choice than to cut spending. Unfortunately, that includes many services and positions. City officials have been reluctant to cut much from the Police and Fire Departments. Unfortunately, those departments are such a large part of the City budget that it is difficult to reach a balance without some cuts. Officials worked with Police Chief Harold Hurtt and Fire Chief Alan Brunacini to cut just 3.8% from those budgets. Most departments face proposed cuts of 10% or more.

The Phoenix Fire Department's budget proposal will cut \$6.2 million through fiscal year 2003-2004. This will include the elimination of 20 civilian positions. This budget proposal must pass through the City Council in February.

What can you and your neighbors do to help? **SHOP PHOENIX!** That's right – go shopping in Phoenix stores and eat in Phoenix restaurants. Sales tax revenues go into the City's General Fund, and help to alleviate some of the city's budget woes.

For more details on the City's budget cuts, please visit the City of Phoenix website at www.phoenix.gov. ♦



Thank You, Allstate!

Carol Gross, Donna McCloe and Nancy Bartunek receive a grant from Joe Gacioc and All-State Insurance for the PFD's Youth Firesetter Intervention Program. The \$6500 will provide free counseling to children referred to the program.



800MHz Update

by Rodney Davis

Phase two of the Fire Department's new radio awareness training will start during the first quarter of 2003. Our goal is to provide our members with a general understanding of their new radio system. This training will provide them with information as to the description of the radio system, how it operates, and how it will improve our ability to communicate.

During the first quarter, Phoenix Fire Training Representatives will be visiting fire stations to provide information related to the new radio system. A fifteen-minute video will be presented featuring the following topics:

- Background on change
- The planning history of the Phoenix Regional Wireless Network
- System coverage
- The timeline for future training

Please ask questions during these visits. Your Training Representative will answer your questions to the best of their ability. All questions will be forwarded to the radio team at technical services. The answers to your questions will be published in the Buckslip. If you think of a question after your Field Training Representative has left the station, an e-mail box has been established to get your question answered and into the system. From the station, type **PFD, New Radios** and from outside the City of Phoenix, use our internet e-mail address, newradios.pfd@phoenix.gov. ♦



Urban Survival Golf Tournament: Looking For a Champion!

Start swinging your clubs, because this year's Urban Survival Golf Tournament is going to be bigger and better than ever!

The tournament has DOUBLED in size, so more PFD members will be able to participate! That's right – it will be played on two golf courses at the same time! The location is the Wildfire Golf Club, located one mile north of the Loop 101 on Tatum and Pathfinder (5525 E. Pathfinder). The club boasts two golf courses – designed by Nick Faldo and Arnold Palmer.

One of the courses will host the annual scramble tournament, while the other will host the Championship Round!

Participants will compete against each other for fabulous prizes, including a trophy and bragging rights! (USGA rules will apply!)

The Awards Dinner and Raffle will take place inside the new Marriott Desert Ridge Resort! Prizes for the raffle include rounds of golf, dinners, hotel stays, golf equipment and much more.

The Urban Survival Golf Tournament will take place on Friday, April 18th (C-shift) with a Noon shotgun start. Registration forms will be available on Friday, February 21st. Registration will also take place on that same day. Start forming your teams today! ♦

Who's Where

Promoted

to Fire Communications Supv.
Deborah Gooch

to Administrative Assistant I
Vicky Walker

to Battalion Chief
Jeffrey Case
Todd Harms
Michael Smith

to Fire Captain
Warren Bowden
David Calles
Steven Caudle
Rodney Davis
Steven Gruenewald
Kirk Redfern

to Fire Engineer
Steven Lambert
Mark Montanez
Justin Moore

Hired

as Administrative Aide
Amy Stack



Councilman Dave Siebert and Fire Chief Alan Brunacini (last two on right) join construction engineers and architects as they break ground for Phoenix Fire's newest Station - #50, to be located at 35th Avenue and the Loop 101. The station will open in late fall with two units: Engine and Ladder 50...in the city's fastest growing area - North Phoenix!

Phoenix Fire members get Sparky, the Fire Dog ready for the 3-mile hike down Central Avenue in downtown Phoenix.



Donna McCloe, Krista Cambern, Carol Gross and Janet Boberg surround the million dollar Fiesta Bowl Championship Trophy, which was later taken home by the Ohio State Bukeyes.



It took a team of 30 PFD members to escort the inflatable fire dog past 400,000 spectators along the Fiesta Bowl Parade route!

Phoenix Fire Department - 2002 Summary

Land Area 485.9

Phoenix Population 1,387,662

Fire Stations 47

PERSONNEL

Sworn 1366

Civilian 332

Total 1698

Budget

FY 02-03 Estimate \$167,403,143 FY 01-02 Actual \$155,847,798 FY 00-01 Actual \$149,604,381

Activity

Total calls ----- 133,519
Fire calls ----- 16,339
EMS calls ----- 104,635
Spec. Ops. calls ----- 563
Misc. calls ----- 11,177
Transports ----- 52,387

Civilian Fire Victims

'02 ----- 11 fatal 34 injured
'01 ----- 8 fatal 28 injured
'00 ----- 8 fatal 32 injured

Drowning Incidents

figures have changed from previous publications
due to internal audits

	INCIDENTS	FATAL	PEDIATRIC*	FATAL PEDS.
'02	91	31	55	11
'01	104	27	72	14
'00	105	22	61	10

* pediatric is age 0 - 5

Fire Dollar Loss

'02 ----- \$42,500,515
'01 ----- \$39,289,698
'00 ----- \$156,635,894

Arson

'02 ----- \$8,041,110
'01 ----- \$12,929,860
'00 ----- \$11,537,716

Juvenile

'02 ----- \$775,720
'01 ----- \$1,189,480
'00 ----- \$2,193,705

Fires Investigated

	TOTAL	% JUVENILE ARRESTS
'02 -----	676	41%
'01 -----	646	65%
'00 -----	741	63%

Significant Incidents

February 18 – February 25
USAR Team Standby at the
Olympics, Salt Lake City

4/29/02 – Phoenix Fire Department
begins Providing Service to the
Laveen Fire District – Laveen
Firefighters and Staff Join the PFD

6/27/02 – Furniture Store Fire,
3144 East Bell Road, 2-Alarm

June and July, 2002
Rodeo/Chedeki Fire –
PFD Crews Protect Show Low

7/14/02 – Apartment Building Fire
During Storms, 3409 N. 28 St.,
2-Alarm

8/15/02 – New Fire Station 52
Opens, 21650 North Tatum

8/28/02 – Alert 3 at Sky Harbor,
Airbus with Front Gear Collapse

September, 2002 – Thermal Imaging
Cameras Supplied to All Phoenix
Engine Companies

10/9/02 – Trinity Cathedral,
100 West Roosevelt, 2-Alarm

10/12/02 – Small Plane Crash and
Trailer Fires, 27th Avenue and Deer
Valley Road

11/1/02 – Support Services relocates
to new facility on 19th Avenue

11/11/2002 – Aztec Party Supply,
Cave Creek and Peoria, 3-Alarm

11/19/02 – Historic Station 8 Opens

12/13/02 – 3-Alarm Apartment Fire,
15449 North 25th Avenue

Units

ALS Engine Companies ... 41
BLS Engine Companies ... 13
Ladder Companies 13
Ladder Tenders 12

ALS Rescues 7
BLS Rescues 22
Rehab Unit 2
Water Tenders 3
Utility Trucks (lighting & air) 3

Battalions 8
Airport Rescue/FF Units 5
Brush Trucks 12
Haz-Mat Supports 3
TRT Support 3
Command Van 2

Foam Pumper 1
Foam Tanker 1
Loss Control 1
Mountain Rescue 1
Hose Truck 1
AR Vans 5

Apparatus Responses

AVERAGE
FIRST UNIT
RESPONSE TIME
4 MINUTES
AND 49 SECONDS

BLS Engines

E1 1540
E3 2197
E5 2729
E10 1886
E13 3255
E15 3416
E16 1902
E25 2780
E28 2733
E30 3232
E34 2130
E35 2026
E42 3041
E96 39
E97 57
E98 50
E99 60

+ E58/T58 in service 4/29/02
++ BC7 in service 12/16/02

ALS Engines

EP2 2111
EP4 1974
EP6 2553
EP7 3659
EP8 2760
EP9 3151
EP11 2753
EP12 2759
EP14 2725
EP17 3248
EP18 3524
EP19 1502
EP20 2771
EP21 2453
EP22 2696
EP23 2486
EP24 3131
EP26 2688
EP27 3253
EP29 2394
EP31 2527
EP33 3074
EP36 1919
EP37 2489
EP38 1790
EP39 1872
EP40 3063
EP41 2540

ALS Engines

EP44 3236
EP45 1965
EP46 943
EP48 887
EP49 670
EP52 1008
EP58+ 458
EP705 2489
EP710 1655
EP718 3131
EP725 3048
EP730 3032
EP735 2272

Battalion Chiefs

NDC 1338
SDC 1613
BC1 94
BC2 1892
BC3 1214
BC5 1116
BC6 606
BC7++ 14
BC8 798
BC19 285
CV1 224
CV2 26

BLS Rescues

R5 2336
R7 3620
R8 3130
R9 3191
R11 3917
R17 2848
R18 3386
R21 2631
R22 2354
R23 1289
R25 3224
R26 3529
R27 3230
R29 1541
R31 2399
R33 2170
R35 3347
R36 1933
R38 1355
R40 1502
R46 707
R718 1836

Utility

U1 414
U17 278
U35 283

Ladders

L1 1521
L4 754
L9 2148
L11 613
L12 466
L20 626
L22 1823
L24 1778
L26 683
L33 2508
L37 458
L41 510
L43 1196

Ladder Tenders

LT1 71
LT4 754
LT9 611
LT11 1900
LT12 1952
LT20 1755
LT22 570
LT24 963
LT26 1379
LT33 121
LT37 1778
LT41 1664

ALS Rescues

R3 3176
R13 2829
R15 2076
R16 1200
R28 2242
R34 2782
R42 3698

Special Ops

S8 105
S12 142
S28 44
S45 49
HM4 504
HM38 80
HM41 204
C957 911

Support Vehicles

RH3 718
RH48 107
H10 2
AR1 135
AR12 1862
AR18 1268
AR41 472
AR44 286
VENT1 20
C810 141

Airport & Foam

F1 259
F2 253
F3 364
AT19 282
SQ19 1438
F34 19
FT34 2

Brush Trucks

BR22/58 90
BR23 50
BR27 27
BR28 58
BR33 16
BR35 64
BR36 101
BR39 40
BR42 23
BR45 56
BR48 67
BR49 65

Tankers

T23 2
T36 40
T45 15
T48 11
T58+ 30

Phoenix Fire Department



Alan V. Brunacini, Fire Chief

Billy Shields, President,
United Phoenix Fire Fighters
Association, Local #493

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Fiesta De Los Premios!



Mark your calendars for the Fiesta of the Year!

**It's time for the Phoenix Fire Department's
Annual Salute to Excellence Awards Celebration!**

This year's theme is a Mexican Fiesta... so put on your best sombrero and give some well-deserved kudos to the PFD members who have gone above and beyond to help others in 2002!

The Fiesta will take place on Saturday, May 31st (A-Shift) at the Mountain Preserve Reception Center, with no-host cocktails beginning at 6:30pm and dinner at 7:30pm. You'll find more information soon on the Intranet, e-mail and the Bucksip.

Visit Phoenix Fire Department's Official Website at <http://www.phoenix.gov/FIRE>

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